

"Edible and Poisonous Mushrooms," by W. A. Murrill, appeared June 26, 1916. This work consists of a large colored chart and a handbook containing descriptions of the chief edible and poisonous species in North America, together with a discussion of edible and poisonous fungi in general and methods of preparing and cooking mushrooms. The treatment is brief, requiring only about seventy-five pages, but it covers the ground in a practical and safe way and will enable the intelligent mushroom-loving public to enjoy many of our native wild species without fear of unpleasant consequences. The writer has erred rather on the side of safety, failing to figure and recommend for food the royal agaric, the blushing amanita, the sheathed amanitopsis, and many other species which are excellent and often eaten.

The chart was prepared under the author's direction by a very careful artist and is suitable for hanging on the wall in libraries and schools, as well as in botanical museums. Different backgrounds are used for the edible and poisonous species, which are separated and plainly labeled so that no mistakes can occur. The maximum of safety lies in accurate figures and descriptions not only of species that may be safely eaten but also of all the dangerous species that should be avoided. (From *Mycologia* for July.)

#### **The Principles of Plant Culture\***

This volume is one of the Rural Text Book Series edited by L. H. Bailey. It is written primarily for the use of students in agriculture and horticulture and aims at giving the principles underlying the successful culture of farm and garden crops. It is an extremely valuable work not only for students, but also for professional growers and amateurs who would know something of the why and wherefore of farming and gardening operations.

It is impossible in a short review to indicate the wide scope of this work. The book is full of accurate information concerning the underlying principles of plant culture, and deals with the

\* A text for beginners in agriculture and horticulture by the late E. S. Goff revised by J. G. Moore and L. R. Jones, of the University of Wisconsin. Pages I-XXIII + I-295; 177 illustrations. Eighth edition: The Macmillan Company.

functions of the various parts of the plant: environment, plant diseases, the propagation of plants, transplanting, pruning, plant breeding, etc. As an appendix a syllabus of laboratory work is given.

As previously mentioned, the information given is usually reliable, but those who know something of plant relationship and also those who have had experience in grafting plants will question the statement on page 216 that "the fir and linden have been grafted."

The device shown in Fig. 152, intended to help start newly transplanted trees into growth; consisting of a flask containing distilled or rain water, connected by a rubber tube with the cut off end of a root, will hardly commend itself to the practical man.

The numbered paragraphs, with cross references constitute a valuable feature of this work and should be of great assistance in helping the student to come to a good understanding of the subject. The illustrations are generally good, and a full index adds greatly to the value of the book.

MONTAGUE FREE

The review of Piper and Beattie's *Flora of the Northwest Coast* appearing in June *TORREYA* stated that The New Era Printing Co. issued the book. This was an error as "The entire edition is owned and controlled by the State College of Washington," Pullman, Washington, to whom purchasers are referred.

—ED.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

MARCH 29, 1916

The meeting of March 29, 1916, was held in the morphological laboratory of the New York Botanical Garden at 3:30 P.M. President Harper presided. Twenty-seven persons were present.

The minutes of February 23 and March 14 were read and approved.

The following persons were nominated for membership: Mr. Paul W. Graff, 1775 North Ave., Bridgeport, Conn., Dr.